

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 ABF-01 FS-01

EB-07 INR-07 /052 W

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R 121600Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9151

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: USEGJC SCI

SUBJECT: FURTHER EXPRESSION OF GOE CONCERN OVER SFCP

REF: CAIRO 12526,

1. IN FOLLOWUP TO EARLIER CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL, MOHAMED RIAD INFORMED AMBASSADOR LAST WEEK THAT MFA WAS STILL ORGANIZING ITSELF FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING BEST MEANS OF DEALING WITH SFCP.

2. IN WHAT MAY BE RELATED MOVE, EMBASSY WAS CONTACTED JANUARY 12 BY DR. ADEL SALEH OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES DIVISION OF MFA WHO ADVISED THAT HE HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY, EVIDENTLY BY UNDERSEC SHALABI, TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM OF COORDINATING AND OVERSEEING PROGRAM. SALEH INFORMED US THAT TASK HAS BEEN GIVEN TO HIM, ALTHOUGH IT WAS TOTALLY UNRELATED TO HIS FUNCTIONS, BECAUSE HE WAS THE ONE WHO INITIALLY CALLED MFA'S ATTENTION TO POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES THAT EMBASSY HAS REPORTED TO WASHINGTON.

3. IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT HIS NEW FUNCTIONS, SALEH ASKED EMBASSY TO PROVIDE HIM WITH LIST OF ALL PROJECTS THAT HAD BEEN APPROVED SINCE INCEPTION OF PROGRAM, INCLUDING SUMS OF MONEY INVOLVED AND NAMES OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS. IN CONNECTION WITH LATTER POINT, SALEH STRESSED HIS CONCERNS THAT CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WERE BENEFITTING EXCESSIVELY FROM INVOLVEMENT

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WITH SFCP. HE WAS GLAD THAT EMBASSY WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN

INSURING THAT BEST INTERESTS OF US AND EGYPT WERE SERVED BY PROGRAM, AS EVIDENCED BY COOPERATION WITH MFA, AND STATED THAT ONE OF HIS PRIMARY GOALS WAS TO REDUCE "ABUSES" OF PROGRAM BY CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS. US, HE SAID, SHOULD NOT BE ADDING TO LIST OF MILLIONAIRES OF WHICH PRESS HAS RECENTLY BEEN COMPLAINING.

4. EMBASSY HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE SALEH WITH MATERIALS REQUESTED AND INTENDS TO SEND THEM WITH SCI OFFICER FOR DISCUSSION OF PROBLEM IN NEXT FEW DAYS. EMBASSY WILL BE FORWARDING SHORTLY MESSAGE WHICH EXAMINES CONCERNS OF MFA RE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF SFCP PROGRAM AS IT EXISTS. MESSAGE WILL INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS THAT MIGHT BE MADE.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO00399
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760010-1072
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760167/aaaachln.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CAIRO 12526
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER EXPRESSION OF GOE CONCERN OVER SFCP
TAGS: OSCI, TGEN, PFOR, EG, US, USEGJC, SFCP, (SALEH, ABEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006